

REMARKS

Claims 8-13 and 20-27 are presently in the application. Claims 1-7 and 14-19 have been canceled.

The specification has been amended to refer to the valve 64 as a “control valve,” rather than as a “switching” valve.” The valve is referred to as a control valve in the “Summary and Advantages of the Invention” portion of the specification and in original claim 1. The language “control valve” is also used in claim 8. Thus, the language now used in the “Description of the Preferred Embodiments” portion of the specification is more consistent with the claim language.

Reconsideration of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, is requested.

Claims 14-19 have been canceled.

Claim 8 has been amended to recite “first and second valve elements.” Thus, the recited “second valve element” of claims 20-27 now has a proper antecedent in claim 8.

The language “an axial boundary face” has been deleted in claim 8 and the language of claim 9 has been amended to clearly indicate that claim 9 recites additional details of the “additional valve device ” recited in claim 8, without the double inclusion of language.

Claim 9 has also been amended to make it more clear that the additional valve device (66) comprises a cylindrical switch body (68 in Fig. 4 and, see, for example, the language used in paras. 18 and 40). Where appropriate, the claims have been amended to consistently refer to element 68 as the “cylindrical switch body.”

Further, claims 12 and 13 have been amended to recite a sealing portion 94 (see, language in paras. 21 and 43) on an axial boundary face of the control chamber 60 at which the

cylindrical switch body 68 comes to rest in the second terminal position (the "upper" terminal position described in para. 49), and which, in this second terminal position of the cylindrical switch body 68, the cylindrical switch body 68 and the sealing portion 94 divide the control chamber 60 into the at least one region (as described in para. 49, this is the region of the control chamber 60 located radially inward from the sealing portion 94) which is substantially disconnected from the high-pressure connection 24 and a second region (this is the region of the control chamber 60 located radially outward from the sealing portion 94) that communicates with the fluid conduit 88 and wherein the at least one region is defined, at least in part, by the hydraulic control face 58 of the second valve element 34.

The language "the at least one region which is substantially disconnected from the high-pressure connection," now used in claim 12, clearly refers to the "at least one region of the control chamber" recited in claim 8.

Claims 8-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Boecking (US 2002/0043569; US 6,634,569) and claims 8-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Boecking (US 2003/0089792; WO 02/36958; US 6,848,630). Reconsideration of these rejections is also requested.

Claim 8 is directed to a fuel injection device for an internal combustion engine with direct fuel injection, the injection device having, inter alia, a first valve element 36 and a second valve element 34, of which the second valve element 34 is coaxially disposed in a longitudinal bore provided in the first valve element 36. This structure is clearly illustrated in applicants' Figs. 2 and 3.

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US 6,634,569 is the US patent corresponding to US 2002/0043569. Each document teaches a fuel injection device having a first valve 26, a second valve element 18 and an additional valve device 3. However, neither document teaches a injection device having a first and second valve elements, of which the second valve element is coaxially disposed in a longitudinal bore provided in the first valve element, as recited in claim 8.

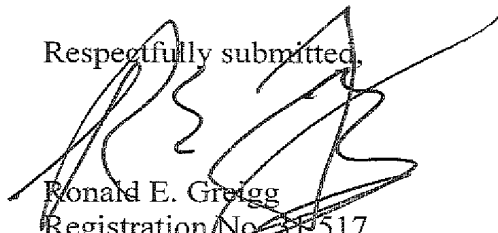
US 6,848,630 is the US patent corresponding to US 2003/0089792 and WO 02/36958. Each document teaches a fuel injection device having a first valve 5, a second valve element 16 and an additional valve deice 3. However, none of these documents teaches a injection device having first and second valve elements, of which the second valve element is coaxially disposed in a longitudinal bore provided in the first valve element, as recited in claim 8.

Thus, none of the references applied against claims 8-13 and 20-27 anticipate the claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any necessary fees in connection with this communication to Deposit Account Number 07-2100.

Entry of the amendment and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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